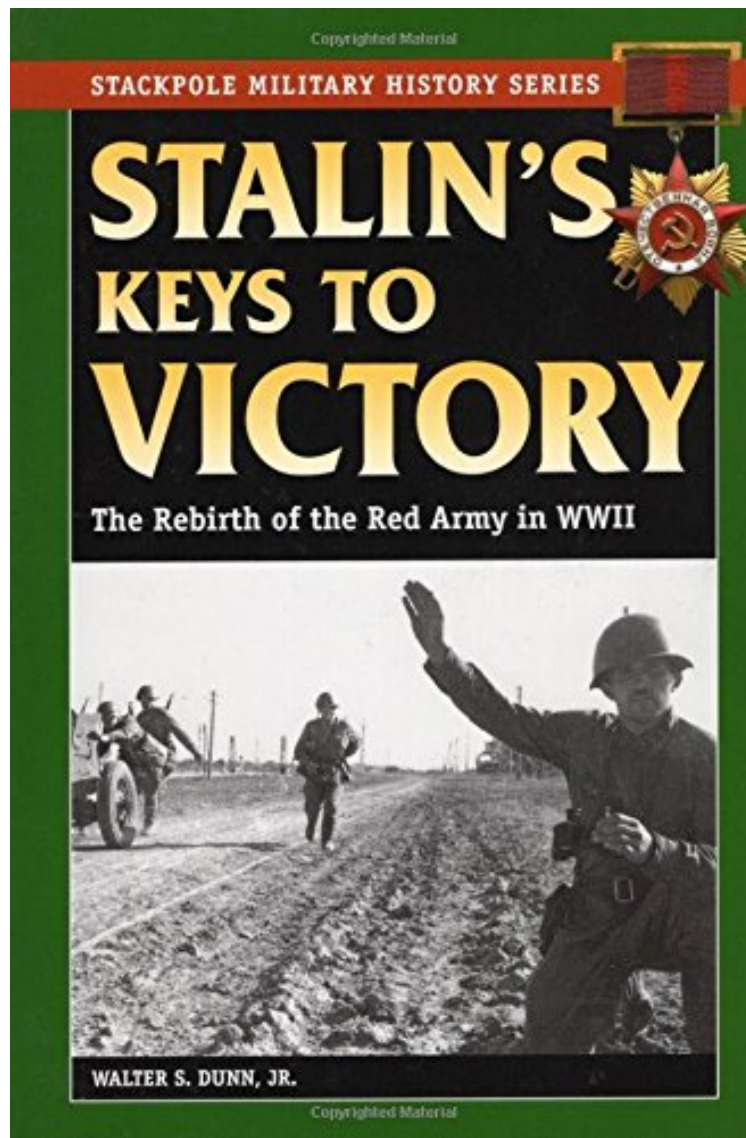


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Stalin's Keys to Victory: The Rebirth of the Red Army in World War II (Stackpole Military History Series)

Jr. Walter S. Dunn

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Jr. Walter S. Dunn : Stalin's Keys to Victory: The Rebirth of the Red Army in World War II (Stackpole Military History Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Stalin's Keys to Victory: The Rebirth of the Red Army in World War II (Stackpole Military History Series):

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. How the Soviets Won By Dave Schranck Mr Dunn was so impressed with the miracle of the Red Army coming back after the disaster of 1941 to defeat the German Army, that he has spent 40 years studying and writing about it. He has built a massive database, a part of which is the identifying and logging of 9000 Soviet units of battalion size and up that fought in WWII. He explains the unusual naming convention and organization structure that to a small extent misled the German intelligence in estimating enemy's strength. He describes how the Soviets were able to mobilize so many men in such a short period of time and other key features that allowed the Russian Army to come back from the brink. Though there are chapters on the Moscow Counteroffensive, Stalingrad, Kursk and Belarus victories, these are not your typical operational battle coverage. Instead Mr Dunn has created tables of divisions and brigades that have been deleted or added to the Order of Battle for each of the above campaigns. In the accompanying narrative, the author also gives totals for men, tanks, guns etc that will impact the particular battle being discussed. In staying with the theme of how the Soviets won, the author also presents production improvements of scale and quality as well as other pertinent data to prove his work. Despite losing millions of men and thousands of tanks and guns, the Soviets had a system in place that could mobilize the manpower as well as supplies and between this book and "Hitler's Nemesis", Mr Dunn does an admirable job of describing how the Soviets could come back from the edge of disaster to victory. Mr Dunn's other books - Kursk and especially Soviet Blitzkrieg - also have this train of thought and will help describe the Soviet miracle. The Soviets, even after 4 bloody years, actually had more men, tanks, guns in service in 1945 than in 1941. They actually released men from service to go back to their work or farms to start rebuilding their country. This book is in the same vein as the author's "Hitler's Nemesis" and should be considered a supplement to it but this book is not casual reading but sometimes a dry but informed reference book. The first part is a summation of "Nemesis" and the last half a series of tables and corresponding explicating narrative. If your doing research or have a need for data on the Red Army, this book and other books written by Mr Dunn will be invaluable.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Unlike Any Other Book By Tony Marquise Jr. This book is unlike any other book I have read on the Eastern Front in World War II. It is an excellent history of the Soviet Army's forces in this war. It tells, in much more detail than I can find anywhere else, the organization, equipment, and the number and training of the units of Stalin's Army. This book contains no combat descriptions. However, it is the best book on the Red Army and how it defeated Germany in World War II. This book rates the highest recommendation possible.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Not Dunn's Best By W. W. Turnbow This is kind of a re-hash of Dunn's excellent HITLER'S NEMESIS. Still, it contains a wealth of info about how the Red Army was basically re-created as many times as were needed to achieve victory. It does not read as pleasantly as did NEMESIS and I might not buy it having both books.

An important reevaluation of World War II on the Eastern Front Detailed look at how the Soviet Union created more new divisions in a few months than the U.S. did during the entire war More than 60 tables list losses, tank and weapon production, and unit formation, with special emphasis on rifle and tank divisions and brigades When Hitler invaded the Soviet Union in June 1941, the German Army quickly annihilated a major portion of the Red Army. Yet the Red Army rebounded to successfully defend Moscow in late 1941, defeat the Germans at Stalingrad in 1942 and Kursk in 1943, and deliver the deathblow in Belarus in 1944. Dunn examines these 4 battles while explaining how the Soviets lost a third of their prewar army yet returned to beat one of the most highly trained and experienced armies the world has ever seen.

About the Author Walter S. Dunn Jr., a recognized authority on the Soviet Union in World War II. He lives in Wisconsin.